STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

DIVISION OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

BOARD OF PHARMACY

Peter Danles
Executive Director

OPLC

Sheri Walsh, Esquire Director, Health Professions 121 South Fruit Street, Suite 401 Concord, NH 03301-2412 Phone 603-271-2350 • Fax 603-271-2856 www.oplc.nh.gov/pharmacy **Board of Pharmacy**

Michael D. Bullek, R.Ph. Administrator / Chief of Compliance

Jason Richard, BA Compliance Specialist



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BOARD NOTICE

The Board has recently received information that has raised questions concerning the current statute and rules on vaccinations. A pharmacist or pharmacy intern under the direct supervision of an immunizing pharmacist may administer vaccines only through a collaborative practice agreement, standing order or prescription from a provider. For a pharmacist or intern to administer vaccines they need to follow the criteria stated in RSA 318:16 (b):

318:16-b Pharmacist Administration of Vaccines. – A pharmacist or pharmacy intern under the direct supervision of an immunizing pharmacist may administer influenza vaccines to the general public and a pharmacist or pharmacy intern under direct supervision of a immunizing pharmacist may administer pneumococcal and varicella zoster vaccines to individuals 18 years of age or older, provided all of the criteria in this section have been met. The pharmacist and pharmacy intern shall:

- I. Hold a current license to practice as a pharmacist or be registered as a pharmacy intern under RSA 318:15-b in New Hampshire.
- II. Possess at least \$1,000,000 of professional liability insurance coverage.
- III. In order to administer influenza, pneumococcal, and varicella zoster vaccines, have completed training specific to the administering of the respective vaccines that includes programs approved by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) or curriculum-based programs from an ACPE-accredited college of pharmacy or state or local health department programs or programs recognized by the board.
- IV. Provide to the board evidence of compliance with paragraphs I-III.
- V. Provide notice to the primary care provider, when designated by the patient, of the administration of the pneumococcal and varicella zoster vaccines.
- VI. Maintain a record of administration of pneumococcal and varicella zoster vaccinations for each individual as required by state and federal law.

In addition to the authority under RSA 318:16-b, a pharmacist and pharmacy intern under the direct supervision of a immunizing pharmacist may administer hepatitis A, hepatitis B, Tdap, MMR, and meningococcal vaccines to individuals 18 years of age or older, provided all of the criteria in this section have been met.

Pharmacists have the ability to <u>administer</u> vaccines, the statutes do not give us <u>prescriptive</u> authority. All vaccines must have a provider associated with the collaborative practice agreement, standing order or written/verbal prescription.

If any further questions please call the Board office at 603-271-2350.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Bullek, R.Ph.

Board Administrator / Chief of Compliance